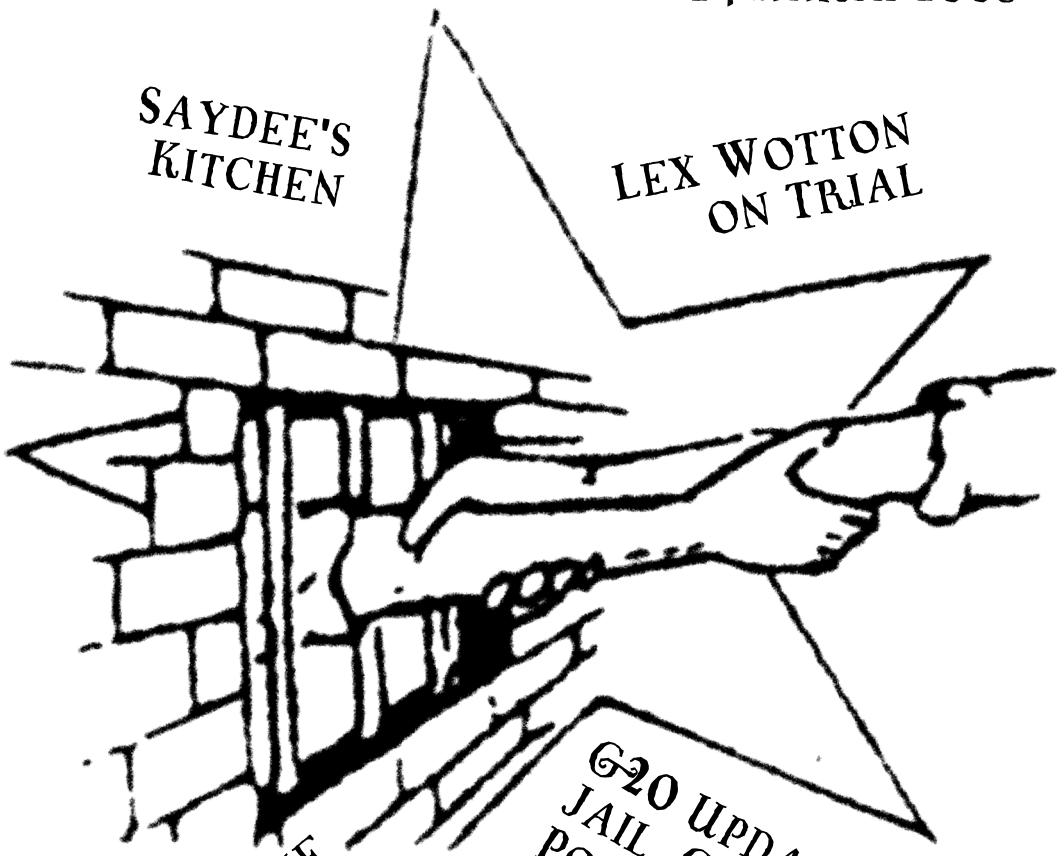
MUTINY

A PAPER OF ANARCHISTIC IDEAS & ACTIONS

#24 MARCH 2008



SAYDEE'S KITCHEN

LEX WOTTON ON TRIAL

G20 UPDATE: JAIL, COURT AND POLICE INVESTIGATIONS

GAZA AND THE 2ND OCCUPATION

FREE!

Mutiny began as a group exploring different ways to resist war at home & abroad. We started a monthly zine to explore different avenues of disobedience. We know there are lots of radical ideas around & we want people to write about their experiences & opinions. The Mutiny collective is meeting regularly again: we're looking at Australian imperialism & avenues of resistance in the Pacific & the region. Contact us if you're interested.

(The mutiny zine collective does not necessarily agree with all the opinions of contributors. Contributors do not necessarily agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective. The mutiny collective doesn't agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective.)

Editors for this month: Graf Cat, SourDough, Maximum Solidarity, Dumpstered Twin and Princess Mob.

This month's zine is dedicated to Akin Sari.

Next month's zine is our 2nd birthday. We will have some sort of shindig. Contact us if you want to come and it'll make us more excited to organise it. Then we can tell you where it is.

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mutineers@graffiti.net

Back issues of *Mutiny* can be found at: www.mpi-web.net/mutiny

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Brief News

Sydney, Australia

Away from all the Chaser-hype, numerous other persons have been appearing at the Magistrate's Court in Sydney to face charges from the APEC protests in September last year. Most of these charges relate to an incident at Hyde Park when police provocatively arrested two of the 'excluded' persons at the end of the demonstration. Later the police would release the two 'excluded' and admit to not knowing that Hyde Park wasn't actually a restricted area. Still, in the ensuing melee they aggressively arrested several others.

Two of those arrested, Emma Torzillo and Karoline Morwitzer, were acquitted of all charges. Marcela Olea, however, was found guilty of assault police despite evidence clearly depicting her doing nothing more than being subject to a violent arrest for filming the actions of the police. She received a two year good behaviour bond. The next person to appear in court will be Feiyi Zhang on March 27th at the Downing Centre.

Barcelona, Spain

On 4 February 2006, 9 squatters and anarchists were arrested after a riot in the neighbourhood of El Forat de la Vergonya in central Barcelona. El Forat is the site of a powerful community resistance. During the resistance, a new squat appeared in the area, with no connection to the movement. "El Teatro" was the scene of huge parties.

Four cops were provoking an incident at El Teatro, where a major party was raging while three Latin American squatters Rodrigo, Alex, and Juan were passing by on their way home. The police began yelling racial insults at them and started a fight. The fight turned into a riot, with drunken party-goers taking part. One of them threw, or knocked off, a flower pot onto the head of one of the cops who was seriously injured and went into a coma. Riot police showed up later and began attacking and hunting squatters. Rodrigo, Alex, and Juan were beaten, taken into custody, and disappeared for several days, and tortured viciously before being admitted into prison. 6 other squatters and anarchists were arrested and blamed for the riot. Two were not even in the vicinity.

The cause of the injury to the officer was confirmed by medical examiners, on-the-scene witnesses, and the mayor of Barcelona (who later changed his story). The three police first on the scene contradicted themselves in court, unable to say how their co-worker was injured – they tried to blame the three squatters for the main police injury. The judge meanwhile denied nearly all of the defence witnesses, and threatened to charge people who witnessed the riot as participants.

The three squatters were given the heaviest charges. They were refused bail, and have been imprisoned for 2 years awaiting trial.

Their trial finally occurred in January 2008. All were found guilty. Rodrigo received a sentence of 4.5 years, plus a 900 000 euro fine, Alex and Juan got sentences of 3.5 years each, and the remaining six received sentences of between 1 and 3 years. All are currently out of prison on provisional liberty, and are appealing the conviction.

Aotearoa

Another three people have been arrested as part of the police repression of the Tino Rangatiratanga movement. Two men aged 44 and 46 from Maketu are due to appear in the Tauranga District Court and a 24-year-old Ruatoki man will appear in the Whakatane District Court today on firearms charges related to the Urewera 16. All three were granted bail.

Sao Paulo, Brazil

Police used rubber bullets and tear gas to remove 900 activists from a tree farm they had invaded to highlight allegations its Swedish-Finnish operators violated a law forbidding foreign companies from owning certain lands, media reported. Via Campesina, the farm workers' rights group that staged the invasion, said in a statement that dozens of its members were injured.

Police commander Paulo Mendes confirmed that about 50 officers took part in the operation, some of them on horseback and others using police dogs to break up the occupation of the farm.

Stora Enso's 5,200-acre tree farm in Brazil's southern Rio Grande do Sul state is illegal, protesters said, because it lies within 95 miles of Brazil's border with Uruguay. Brazilian law forbids foreign companies from owning land within 95 miles of the country's borders.

"Planting this green desert in the border zone is crime against our country, against the pampas ecosystem and against the food sovereignty of the state," Via Campesina said in a statement.

Stora Enso had applied for an exception to the law and asked a judge to evict the activists, said Otavio Pontes, a spokesman for the company's Brazilian unit. The land is owned by a Brazilian firm, he said.

But accusing Stora Enso of using a Brazilian front company to evade the law, activists invaded the farm before dawn Tuesday, cutting down trees and replacing them with the saplings of native trees.

The Via Campesina group staged similar invasions against Stora Enso and other pulp companies last year, arguing that paper companies harm the environment by replacing native forests with eucalyptus and pine trees. Stora Enso is one of the world's largest paper companies.

Greece

Nikos Kountardas has been in a circular hunger strike (one week on, one off) at Chios Judicial Prison since 21st February and is determined to keep striking. Kourtardas was convicted on 24th December 2007 for holding up an anti-repression banner at a soccer match in the Athens Olympic Sports Stadium. He is also accused – without any evidence – of arson at an ETE (National Bank of Greece) bank in Ksanthi (a small town in north-eastern Greece). Before his arrest he'd just been released on parole; having spent nearly 18 months in pre-trial imprisonment accused of assaulting Christos Polyzogopoulos, a member of PASOK (ex ruling party) and ex-president of the GSEE (sell-out main trade union).

Another anarchist accused under that case, Stelios Malindretos is still detained in Dafni mental hospital. Nikos was transferred to Komotini Prison where he abstained from prison food in protest of his prosecution. Moved into isolation at Kassandra Prison for his refusal to "behave", and then a month later he was moved to his current location, the overpopulated prison in Chios island, where a few months ago, a long-time prisoner in struggle (P. Georgiadis), was beaten by prison guards for distributing political material.

Denmark

The night air of Denmark's major cities has been full of smoke and fire recently, with immigrant youth believed to be behind the destruction in response to racist police harassment. Police have long since enforced selective "zero tolerance policies" in poor immigrant neighborhoods and declared "visitation zones"-- special areas of cities where civil liberties are temporarily suspended. The incident sparking the unrest was the police beating of an elderly immigrant man and his sons last Saturday.

Cars and dumpsters have been the main targets for the arsonists, but in the last days several schools have also come under attack. At least one school was burned to the ground. Rioters seem to be avoiding direct conflict with the police, but are using hit-and-run tactics similar to classic insurgent strategy. On several occasions, however, police and fire fighters have been met with rocks and bottles when approaching fires or large groups of youths.

A social worker from an area most affected by the violence said, "This is the fire that the police have built. They have been on a constant course of confrontation with the youths, so it's no wonder that it comes to this." The disturbances have loud echoes to immigrant youth rioting in France in November 2005 that followed incidents of police brutality there.

Initially the disturbances were confined to Copenhagen, but have since broken out in more than 15 Danish cities. On one night alone in the capital, 28 cars and even more garbage containers were burned.

New York, U.S.A.

An early morning explosion blew out windows in the Time's Square Armed Forces Recruitment Center and shook buildings blocks away. No one was injured, but New York City police officers and firefighters now redirecting foot and vehicular traffic away from the area. The Time's Square subway station, a major hub that nearly a dozen train lines pass through was also shut down.

A witness reported seeing a large plume of smoke after the explosion and an individual wearing a hooded sweatshirt on a bicycle leaving the scene. Police believe that attack may be connected to a similar one that shattered windows in the Mexican consulate on the eve of the anniversary of slain anarchist journalist Brad Will's death last November.

The Time's Square center located directly across the street from a police station is a frequent target of anti-war protests. There are likely to be demonstrations at recruitment center as we near the fifth anniversary of the March 20th 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq.

G20 Update: Jail, Court & Police Investigation

by Princess Mob

In November 2006, people took to the streets of Melbourne to confront the G20, a meeting of the world's most powerful finance ministers whose policies perpetrate suffering and violence in countless communities around the world every day. Since that protest, Victorian and Federal police have carried out a vast operation of surveillance and arrests, raiding houses at dawn and slapping protestors with ludicrous charges and repressive bail conditions. This is a campaign of intimidation and part of an attempt to criminalise protest. The legal process for those charged after the G20 protests moves slowly on. There have been a few developments this month.

Akin Sari sentenced

Akin Sari was sentenced to 28 months gaol with a minimum non-parole period of 14 months. Judge Punshon also ordered him to pay $8 310 for damaged to a police van. Akin pleaded guilty to 9 charges including riot, assault and aggravated burglary.

Amongst the general media hysteria about the G20 protests, Akin has been singled out for special condemnation and racist vilification. Arrested on November 19, the day after the street protests, he was initially denied bail for a number of weeks. Bail was eventually granted, but was revoked when he breached his reporting conditions and travelled to Sydney. He has spent roughly 7 months locked up already, so he will spend at least another 7 months behind bars.

You can send mail to:

Akin Sari
Port Phillip Prison
PO Box 376
Laverton VIC, 3028

Make sure you put a return name and address or it won't be accepted.

Committal Hearing Continues

The committal hearing for the remaining G20 defendants going through adult court began on February 18. During the hearing, 10 people agreed to plead guilty to reduced charges, leaving 13 people still going through the hearing.

In a committal hearing the prosecution has to prove to the magistrate that there's enough evidence for the charges to go to trial with some chance that people will be found guilty. Over three weeks the defence cross-examined a number of witnesses, most of whom were police officers. At the time of writing, people are still waiting for the magistrate to determine which charges will be going to trial. When she rules on this in late March a date for trial will be set.

Those who agreed to plead guilty will have their next hearing in early April. All of those who took plea bargains pleaded guilty to riot, and some individuals also pleaded guilty to other charges including criminal damage and recklessly causing serious injury. The prosecution have said that they'll be seeking jail sentences for some people.

People from the G20 Arrestee Solidarity Network and Food not Bombs tried to make court more bearable by providing picnic lunches and money from fundraisers was used to help people with travel and legal costs.

Taskforce Salver Investigation Notes

During the committal hearing the defence obtained copies of many of the notes made by police about the G20 protests, including notes from 'Taskforce Salver', the taskforce set up to investigate G20 protestors. These notes are quite extensive, although sections are blacked out and other bits are poorly photocopied, and they add to the information we have about how and why people were arrested. Here are some preliminary notes on what we can learn from this information.

The notes make it clear that, from the beginning of the investigation, the police were targeting individuals they had already identified as activists and therefore believed were 'leaders.' As well as going after individuals they had picked out from the start, they also attended protests in both Melbourne and Sydney in the hope of identifying people in the crowds, and arrested people from these identifications. Police who have monitored forest protesters, the Newtown police in Sydney and a number of universities and schools provided information to Taskforce Salver.

Activist social networks were also targeted. In January of 2001, groups of plain clothes police carried out surveillance of a number of pubs in inner-city Melbourne. (They were given instructions that officers drinking shouldn't drive or arrest anyone.) Police also tried to identify people by searching for the names of punk bands from patches worn to the protest. Clothing, including shoes, bags and hats, was often used in making identifications and was seized in searches as people were arrested.

Taskforce Salver worked very closely with the APEC taskforce in Sydney. As we already knew, police from the APEC squad were present at the G20 protests. They were keen to help with the Sydney arrests and exchanged information with Melbourne. In return, Taskforce Salver sent APEC police video footage of solidarity demonstrations outside the court.

It was the APEC taskforce who recommended that the Sydney arrests be coordinated through the Counter Terrorism unit. When a member of Taskforce Salver first talked to the Counter Terrorism unit after this suggestion, they originally refused and said it wasn't in their charter. The APEC taskforce, who arranged logistics for the arrests, nevertheless requested their involvement. As the Counter Terrorism unit did take part in the arrests, it is clear the cops in charge of policing APEC won their argument that these arrests and these political crimes should be dealt with by Counter Terrorism police.

Taskforce Salver also used the intensification of policing in the lead up to APEC to help their inquiries more generally. When they released the infamous 'persons of interest' photos to Crimestoppers and the media, they hoped that the hype around APEC would help get them national media coverage. Indeed, the photos – which showed a [24] people without indicating what, if any, crime they were suspected of, did receive widespread attention and a number of people were identified from them or were frightened into turning themselves in.

What can we learn from all this? That talking in pubs isn't safe. That police are worried about protesters. That when we're trying to hide our identities we need to be more thorough. That we could be under surveillance. These are things that perhaps we should have known already but didn't want to take seriously.

But although this is serious and frightening it isn't the end of the world. We can learn from this, keep supporting each other and continue resisting openly. The most important thing right now is that some of our friends and comrades are awaiting sentencing or still going through the tense tedium of court – or, in the worst case, in prison. The G20 investigations are a test for both sides. The police have thrown intense resources towards them and what they manage to get away with in these trials is going to set new limits for what they'll try to get away with next time. Anyone who thinks that we need to keep opening the spaces for protest and direct action needs to support the arrestees both politically and practically.

For more information about ongoing solidarity organising, see ***www.afterg20.org***

GAZA AND THE SECOND OCCUPATION

MARCH 2, 2008

The West Bank has been erupting in a series of small-scale demonstrations and violent clashes as people try in some way to make some impact in regards to what's happening in Gaza. Mostly it's just an expression of anger and grief. People are reeling with each news report, watching the death count rise. It's up to 98 since Wednesday. And counting – 67 were killed yesterday, all civilians (Palestine has no army). 16 of them were resistance fighters, and 19 of them children – one a 2-day old baby girl. Over 200 people have been injured so far. Apparently there's not enough cement or coffins to bury all the dead – because of the siege. This is the current Israeli siege on Gaza (Operation Hot Winter) that has been in effect since they withdrew from formal occupation of the Gaza strip in 2005. Israel still controls all of the borders (except for Rafah, which is the crossing controlled by Egypt) including airspace and marine territories. The intensification of the siege which took place in January this year was pretty widely reported, with Israel preventing all imports and exports, most entry and exit (approximately 25% of all people with dire medical conditions requiring treatment outside of Gaza are refused permits to leave); and an adequate supply of electricity and fuel (legally possible because it declared Gaza a "hostile entity" in September last year). So now not only are Palestinians in Gaza without water for most of the day, (when it comes through it's sandy, dirty and contaminated with sewage), but the Ministry of Health is also having to beg Egypt for cement and coffins to bury the dead.

And all the international community can talk about is how Hamas needs to stop the Qassam rocket attacks on the settlements within striking range of the rockets (between 3-10km depending on the type), despite the Israeli Defense Minister in 2006 arguing that the threat of Qassams is more psychological than physical. But this week one Israeli resident of Sderot was killed, and so many, many Palestinians must die. In fact, 4 days ago Israel's Deputy Defense Minister threatened Palestine with a "holocaust". And cabinet minister Meir Sheetrit urged Israel to "hit everything that moves" in Gaza "with weapons and ammunition". Luckily, the UN Security Council has agreed to express "deep concern" over the attacks on Gaza. There was talk about calling for a cease-fire (which Hamas has already tried to do twice), but there was a widespread fear that the US would veto it.

But whilst a full-scale ground invasion is imminent, Defense Minister Barak has advised it's not about to happen just yet. Apparently now is not the right time, but that time is soon. It won't happen overnight, but it will happen. And if it does chances are we will see another war with Lebanon, because Hezbollah has recently promised to join in the fight, should Israel attack Gaza.

At the same time, many people are suggesting (as seems to happen with some regularity) that the 3rd Intifada is upon us. All over the West Bank skirmishes between Palestinians and the occupying Israeli army are taking place. Today a 14 year old boy was killed in Hebron by Israeli Occupation Force soldiers. Many more were injured there, as well as in Bi'lin and Bethlehem, as Palestinians protested the attacks on Gaza. Young boys spent the day throwing rocks at Qalandiya (the major checkpoint between Ramallah and Jerusalem). Whilst I have grown increasingly sceptical of these declarations, it does seem very possible.

The last few days have been profoundly saddening and disempowering. What has been perhaps most disturbing though, was the protest of 30 Hamas women that took place in Ramallah today. Approximately 150 Palestinian Authority police surrounded one of the main mosques in Ramallah, waiting for the Hamas protesters to emerge so that they could be arrested, we heard. But when they came out, the 30 women were allowed to march out into the street, cardboard posters held proudly, as they chanted against the attacks on Gaza. We tried to film the demonstration, but within 30 seconds a PA cop in plain clothes was on top of us, trying to take the tape. The media warned us to keep the camera out of sight - "Even we don't film here," one said. Already the guy from Associated Press had been beaten up. The women were stopped at the first intersection they came to, surrounded by the aggressive cops wielding Kalashnikovs (AK-47s). But still defiantly they chanted. Held there for a while, they were allowed to march a bit further on, while men with enormous yellow Fatah flags ran up the side of the protest and blocked the women from reaching al Manarah (the city centre), hijacking the demonstration. I was advised that the cops do this regularly, that they were the ones to give the men the flags. Then, in a particularly fascist turn, the police started chanting Fatah slogans, trying to drown out the women. Suddenly, as if on cue, batons were drawn and the women were attacked viciously, while the crowds around them were beaten, dispersing onlookers. As we were herded down a side street, a local noted that this was "the new occupation. This is the second occupation".

Lex Wotton on trial

by red Sonya

Lex Wotton, Palm Island resident and one-time candidate for mayor, is facing charges of riot with destruction arising from the November 2004 protest on Palm Island against police brutality and the death in custody of Mulrunji Doomadgee. He goes to court in Brisbane on April 7th 2008.*

Mulrunji died on the floor of the Palm Island watchhouse on November 19th 2004. An autopsy report in 2004 found Mulrunji, 36, died from a ruptured liver and portal vein and had also suffered four broken ribs. He was, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, one of 241 Black deaths in custody in Australia between 1990 and 2005. Of these deaths, only Mulrunji's resulted in a trial of those responsible. And that trial only occurred because of the actions of Palm Island residents on November 26th 2004.

The catalyst for what is described by the police as a "riot" was the public release of the autopsy report into Mulrunji's death, which was read out at a public meeting. It detailed the full extent of Mulrunji's injuries, yet concluded that his death was accidental and the result of a heavy fall on the watchhouse steps. The response was immediate. 400 residents were involved in actions that resulted in the torching of the watchhouse, the court house, and the home of Senior Sergeant Chris Hurley.

Queensland Premier Peter Beattie declared a state of emergency, evacuated teachers and medical staff from the island, and sent in scores of Tactical Response Group commandos armed with riot shields, balaclavas, helmets with face-masks and semi-automatic weapons. They took over the local school to use as a command post and roamed the streets, arresting unarmed and unresisting members of the Aboriginal community. A 14 year old and a 64 year old woman, Lex's mum Agnes, were amongst those arrested. Lex described the circumstances of his arrest at a speech for the inaugural launch dinner of the Errol Wyles Justice Foundation in November 2006:

> *My kids, to see what they saw, me being hit with a stun gun. I'm unarmed, just a shirt-on and they screamed because they heard this loud noise. They thought I was shot, and not only seeing me, but for these officers to go into my house and put guns to the children's heads. Now I say is that wrong, or is that right? We know it's wrong.*[1]

In a speech delivered on May 7th 2007, Lex Wotton's solicitor, Stewart Levitt had this to say about the Palm Island "riot":

> *We believe that the context in which the Police Station and Barracks came to be destroyed on Palm Island, namely the attempted Police cover-up of a Black death in custody, provided at least a moral justification for the protest and to the extent that the criminal law should become involved in punishing people who may or may not have been involved in an angry protest. The sanctions of the criminal law should be measured and responsive, to the just grievances of those involved.*
>
> *After all, there would be no United States of America, if the Blue Coats had respected British Government authority and property.*[2]

Throughout 2005 and 2006, Mulrunji's case was passed to and fro around the Queensland legal

1 http://www.abc.net.au/am/content/2006/s1789877.htm

2 http://www.errolwyles.com/RecentSpeechesView.aspx?action=58

bureaucracy – deputy coroners, state coroners, the DPP's (Director of Public Prosecutions) office and a former chief justice were all involved. Until on Invasion Day, 26th January 2007, it was determined by the former chief justice that there was enough evidence to charge Senior Sergeant Chris Hurley. Ten days earlier, one of the witnesses to the attack on Mulrunji, Patrick Bramwell, hung himself – 6 months after Mulrunji's teenage son, Eric, who led the procession at his funeral, died in the same fashion.

In July 2006, Lex's solicitor, Stewart Levitt, had successfully argued to have Lex's trial moved from Townsville to Brisbane after a survey he commissioned found that only 13.3 per cent of a sample of 400 Townsville resident had a positive attitude towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and only 4.9 per cent had a positive attitude towards the people of Palm Island. More than half of those surveyed said they could not disregard negative beliefs about Aborigines, even if instructed to do so by a judge in a courtroom.[3]

As if to prove his point, on May 8, 2007 a Townsville District Court sentenced Terrence Alfred Kidner to 16 months in jail after he plead guilty to rioting on Palm Island. Chris Hurley was of course tried in Townsville, and acquitted by an all-white jury on June 20th 2007.

Lex Wotton was granted bail and formally entered a plea of not guilty to rioting with destruction on Palm Island, at the end of May 2007.

I spoke to Lex on the phone a few weeks back, and he really wants to see people outside court in Brisbane on April 7th. He could also do with cash to support himself and his family during the trial. He is to be tried in Brisbane, not Palm Island, so the trial is taking place a long way from home.

Actions around Australia in support of Lex Wotton:

Melbourne:

Saturday 5th April at 12 noon

Outside the Aboriginal Health Services 186 Nicholson St, Fitzroy.

Brisbane:

Rally on Friday 4th April

Musgrave Park, Brisbane** (gather from 10am, April 4 for actions to continue through to April 7, the date set for the start of the trial)

**the MUA will be arranging bus transport to take supporters from Sydney (leaving from Redfern's The Block) to the Brisbane actions. To book yourself on the buses (book now!) and for information call 0413 188 907

Please donate any money you can to:

Account name: Lex Wotton

BSB No: 013011

Account No: 761 949 106

***STOP PRESS – at the time of publication, it is possible that Lex's trial will be postponed until June – call the number above to find out the latest. But please continue to donate to Lex's fighting fund!**

3 http://kooriweb.org/foley/news/2006/palm/aust17jul06b.html

As A Whole Community Project: SAYDEE'S KITCHEN

As A Whole is a grassroots, autonomous, do-it-yourself collective. It is a small group of freelance artists and musicians bonded together for the advancement of any disregarded community. This collective is composed of four individuals from the DIY punk community who are very enthusiastic in organising educational and recreational events. Our collective had an infoshop that possessed various kinds of books and literature ranging from politics, history, social issues, spirituality, philosophy, gender, counterculture and radical environmentalism. We had successfully held different kinds of educational activities such as forums (concerning politics, environmentalism, and alternative living), documentary film viewings, poetry readings, art exhibits, a monthly free-school program for less fortunate children and Food Not Bombs.

Unfortunately due to lack of support from the people in our community and lack of experience in an independent project, we had fallen apart. Our collective had stopped our project last July 2007.

In wanting to continue what we love to do, we organised a project called Saydee's Kitchen.

What Is Saydee's Kitchen?

Saydee's Kitchen is a feeding project dedicated to giving free food to the elderly every Wednesday, many of who are still working hard just to feed themselves, and to street children every Saturday. As of now we have an average of 100 people per cook-up. Using solicited vegetables from the market, we intend to serve hot and delicious vegan meals on these said days. As of now we have a free place to do this project. This place will serve as the official kitchen to hold all the cooking and food preparation for the meals. At the same time, this place is also a library that has all the books that we had before and a lot of new ones.

By November 2007, we had a growing list of volunteers that would help with cooking and preparations. We had been working with certain communities and barangays (village, district or ward). Even some of the Universities here had decided to help and send student volunteers. These groups would be divided weekly into different groups and would hopefully enjoy working together through a harmonious and fun environment. This is how we intend Saydee's Kitchen to be.

By December we started the project. We launched it with a concert and a discussion of how Saydee's Kitchen would work and what we were about.

Why Saydee's Kitchen?

The name Saydee is the name of our beloved daughter. She was born with emphysema. We always dreamed of raising her in a community that lives for love.

We always planned of introducing a world to her that is about giving and compassion. She was suppose to grow up doing what her parents do and hopefully be a person who cares for the world and everything that lives in it. Unfortunately she died last July. This is a tribute for her and hopefully her name would last forever – linked to a good deed that she could have done while growing up with us. However, similar to what we had experienced the last time, the project didn't last long due to some problems with cash flow. A project would not survive if it couldn't sustain itself. We are hoping to find a way to have income to support the needs of the project, such as kilos of rice, oil, spices and gas, for food collection and food distribution. This way the project would always be alive and sustained. By then we won't have to depend on donations anymore. For this matter we have thought of setting up a bakery, and one that would serve quality bread, pastries and coffee. We believe this is a good idea because we're in a good location where people wait for public transport, and there is no other bakery in the area. Aside from that we think that it is a very good project because we could make the dough ourselves and then bake it. And at the same time we could hire some of the kids around the place to sell the bread for extra income. Selling bread is a typical children's job in the Philippines. The unsold bread also could be used for our free-meal events; that is why we think it's the perfect income generating project for Saydee's Kitchen. A library and a coffee shop. And perhaps in the future it will be our turn to help other infoshops, just like the way you helped us. Please support us through the struggles ahead and to help ourselves we want to start a small local business to maintain what we are doing. In order to do this, we need capital to start and be independent at once.

The current situation of our project is off and on due to some problems regarding the small basic necessities of running free-meals. In this way we are hoping to solve the current situation and if given the chance, we would have a more stabilised flow of activity.

"Everything we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration, we are the ones we've been waiting for."

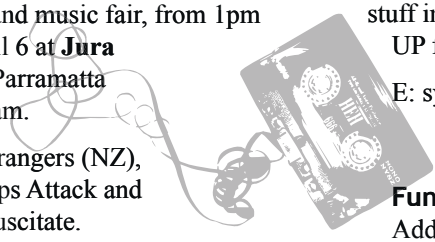
Thank you so much and all the love and gratitude from our heart,

Saydee's Kitchen crew

For more information, or to donate, please visit asawhole.3monkeyz.net

Let's Talk About Text

Book, zine and music fair, from 1pm Sunday April 6 at **Jura Books** 440 Parramatta Rd, Petersham.



Music by Strangers (NZ), When Chimps Attack and Do Not Resuscitate.

Vegan food by Food Not Bombs.

Dress-up theme is literature/philosophy.

There will be a skillshare huddle/DIY living discussion with everyone at 1pm, then heaps of skillshares: a zine-making/ advice table and origami nerdouts, woolly story-telling/knitting lessons, stencil making, making messages with needle and thread, active listening and caring skills, vegan cupcake station, alternative to consumer feminine hygiene products, drawing and writing jam spaces.

All people with distros, authors, zine writers are welcome to come and sell/ exchange their wares (fee is $5).

Email Anna - annamail@animail.com for further details.

❁❁❁

Jura Food Coop

The Jura fruit and vegie co-op has been going great, with cheap organic vegies arriving at the shop every Thursday. But we need more people to be part of it to make it sustainable. Wouldn't you like a $10, $20 or $30 vegie box for your household? Email jurafoodcoop@riseup.net

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Sydney Food Not Bombs

Sunday 6th April - *Let's Talk About Text* at Jura Books.

Sunday 13th April - Youth Week in Marrickville (Jack Shanahan Reserve) from 11am-5pm. Huge day of bands, skate comp and other fun stuff including a MASSIVE FNB COOK-UP for the kids! whoot-whooooo!

E: sydfoodnotbombs@gmail.com

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Fundraising for Gaza

Addison Road organic markets

From Sunday 16 March, every Sunday 9am-2pm for next 3 weeks

We are selling fair trade olives, olive oil, za'tar, Arabic coffee & sweets, handicrafts from Palestine as well as books and cds - all proceeds to Gaza.

Organised by the Palestine Relief Fund

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Films At Black Rose

Short Film Night

Including *Black Out* – a short doco on the Redfern redevelopment project, and its effects on the local Aboriginal community.
Sunday March 30, 6.30pm

Boyz n the Hood
(1991)
Running time: 102 mins
Sunday April 13, 6.30pm

Black Rose Anarchist Bookshop & Library
22 Enmore Rd, Newtown
Open Thursday-Friday 11-7
Saturday-Sunday 11-5
P: 0424 490 792
E: blackrosebooks@yahoo.com.au
Accessibility: The space has 3 steps at the front. The toilet is not easily accessible.

Reviews

Off My Shoulders (2007) by Vicki Potempa

This is a book written by Vicki Potempa, a life adventurer and past activist. It is well written, readable and it also paints an intriguing picture of times past. For me, this was an amazing thing to see through Vicki's eyes. A few decades ago life was quite Spartan, and there were shortages of numerous incidental things - cement for example.

We've since seen both progress and regression. An awareness of the past lets us understand that duality better. Many things are now cheaper - but land is still inaccessible.

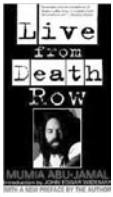
There is one down point - the string of things which go wrong, or people who take advantage of her - it does get a bit depressing at times. But, equally the strength that Vicki had was an incredible thing to witness, and her life does come together at the end. It's not a storybook warm and fuzzy ending, but it is nevertheless a positive conclusion with all the richness of real life.

Further, it's not just people who directly take advantage of her - Vicki seems sidelined by bureaucracies. This sort of thing goes on today – but Vicki's portrayal gives you a new perspective. It's one of the minor injustices endemic in our world. Still, our world does lurch along, there are some positives which shouldn't be ignored - but let's not ignore its problems, either.

Vicki's encounters seem to include many people whose fear of "feminism" (or other controlling, emotion laden words) - or indeed their own regard for religion - trap themselves in a pit of ignorance, where they become their own worst enemies, act to limit their own opportunities. She also circulated in the early pro-choice and other movements – from which you get an intriguing historical perspective.

The saga of Vicki's life, intertwined with developing social movements in Australia, is an amazing book. Not only do you see the trials and tribulations of one woman's life, and witness the strength which she ultimately draws on - you have a bird's eye view of Australia's past social struggles.

Mr. Z



Live from Death Row (1996) by Mumia Abu-Jamal

How is prison different from being buried alive, and interned in a concrete coffin? For many, there is no difference. Prison is the state's game of breaking those human souls who attempt to change their situation. They reflect how the pecking order of society goes – the worse off you are outside the prison/"correctional" system, the more (over-)representation you get in these ever overflowing cesspools of human misery. You rarely (never, even) see a rich white person do hard time. Throughout this book, Mumia Abu-Jamal is constantly stressing the disproportion of black prisoners to the total Black American population* – and it's even worse when it comes to those on death row.

Mumia – journalist, former Black Panther, supporter of the predominantly black anarcho-primitivist group MOVE – has been in prison on a police murder conviction since 1982. Most of which has been on death row (he's currently awaiting a Federal Court decision). Many of his proponents have maintained that he was framed by corrupt, high-ranking police officials, who were intent on silencing the FBI's informant into mafia-police corruption – who was the cop Abu-Jamal had supposedly killed. For writing and publishing this book, he got thirty days solitary confinement, the reason being: "engaging in the business or profession of journalism".

Through Abu-Jamal's words, you soon get the picture that prison is a microcosm of liberal society and its systemic violence: the constant abuse of rights, of rewards and punishments, and being forced to conform to the "reformed" prisoner model. He highlights that the whole system, not just the prison system nor even simply the "justice" system, is racist, elitist, and skewered. He laments that his young black acquaintance – imprisoned stupidly through the barrel of a pellet gun – who was experiencing the urges and emotions of puberty, would not experience the joys and passions of being embraced in a lover's arms, nor the tenderness of a new-born – until the young boy gets released as an old man.

As John Edgar Wideman points out in the introduction, *Live from Death Row* is different from the usual black person's individual struggle (what he calls the neoslave narrative) popularised in paperback and film. It is much more than just Abu-Jamal's life in prison, but an important illustration that the "correctional" system is the most racist and corrupt form of punishment in human existence.

*The over-representation isn't just confined to the US. Australia's Indigenous peoples make up 2.4% of the nation's total population, yet has a prison representation of 24% of all prisoners.

Dumpstered Twin

This month:

- What's going on in the ongoing G20 arrestee saga? Princess Mob reports on more days in court, the sentencing of a comrade and the release of the police investigation notes.

- Red Sonya writes about the continuing fallout from the Palm Island riots with Lex Wotton facing trial for his part in the protest against the police.

- An on-the-ground report from Palestine about Israel's latest invasion and all the bloodshed it resulted in.

- Saydee's Kitchen tells of an autonomous, grassroots collective in the Philippines trying to maintain and broaden their project of providing free food.

- Reviews of 'Live from Death Row' and 'Off My Shoulders'.